

## Fellowship Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of March 3, 2024

Installation Service for Pastor Stephen Anderson

**Opening Connection:** *Go around the room and ask each person to give their name and answer. The Discussion Leader is welcome to make up a question.*

- Tell us about the first pastor who helped you grow after you became a Christian?
- What is the most important characteristic, in your opinion, of any good pastor?
- What is the first thing you hope to do outside when the weather warms up?

**Sermon Text and Content Question Ideas:** *Discuss the content of the text and ask your own follow-up questions as the discussion unfolds.*

- Ask a volunteer to read Ephesians 4:4-8, 11-16.
- How is the “oneness” in the first part of this passage reflected in the diversity of the later part of the passage? How can the church be both one and so diverse in gifts?
- Why are the particular roles of verse 11 called out in particular in this passage? What do they have in common with each other? Why did God give them to the Church?
- What would happen if you had all the other gifts in the Church, but NOT the five listed in verse 11? What would a local church be like in this case?
- What is the goal of the local church, based on this passage? Describe this type of true maturity, and what are the ways a Church can become more mature.
- How does a church grow “into Him, who is the Head, into Christ,” specifically?

**Discussion/Application Question Ideas:** *Focus now on applying the content of the message.*

- What are some ways that you personally can participate in the goals of this Ephesians 4 passage?
- What are some things to avoid which would detract from the goals of Ephesians 4?
- Do you see your pastors as a “gift from God” the way this passage describes them? If you truly embraced this idea, how might that influence your thinking or actions?
- What are some practical ways you can use your gifts in a way that leads toward the unity of the local church, rather than just using your gifts in general?
- What impacted you most about the installation service today?
- Why is it such a healthy sign that we could have two former pastors participate in the installation of our new lead pastor? Talk about the significance of that. Why do you think this is unfortunately rare?

### Prayer Together

- Spend some time in prayer together, praying for Pastor Stephen and Keysha. Pray also for our church, that we would be everything God wants us to be, and moving toward the goals of this Ephesians 4 passage.